ESSENTIAL BELIEF STATEMENT

1) What are the influences that led you to selecting teaching as a profession?

2) How did you select the level and content of study?

3) What impact will the way you learn effect the methods and approaches you use in the classroom?

4) What are your expectations and fears about teaching?

5) What do you expect to get out of this course?

Growing up I’ve always loved working with children. I’ve done lots of camps and was involved in mentoring programs through my school when I was in high school. It became apparent to me that I wanted to be in a teaching role when I was a senior in high school volunteering in an early childhood classroom at my school. The children were so fun and made me realize that I wanted to be a part of something that was enabling children to learn and grow. It wasn’t until my freshman and sophomore year in college that I started figuring out more about what kind of teacher I wanted to be. I looked at who I was and what I wanted to do for the rest of my life and teaching math and sciences for 8 hours was not it. I love to be active and learn about healthy habits, but I’m a big advocate for getting involved in sports. At this point I decided to change my major from early childhood education to Community Health Education with a minor in Coaching. This gives me more opportunities to possibly work with gym classes and teach children ways to increase their overall health and be able to continue doing what I love and coach basketball as well!

I think that working with older children will also be more beneficial for me because I am a bodily-kinesthetic learner which doesn’t allow for me to do one thing for long periods of time, and I think that if I’m in a middle or high school, I can be teaching multiple classes instead of being with one class all day, which would give me some variance in my day. This also goes along with how my way of learning will affect my students. I think children will like my classes because they will be able to get up and move and have fun whereas in other classes they might not be able to do that.

I hope to get to know each of the students that I end up in class with so that both they can what they need from me as a teacher, and I can learn from them for any future classes that I may be in. I’m nervous about teaching my own lessons in front of these age students because I’ve mostly worked with elementary aged children, but I’m excited for this new opportunity to find where exactly it is that I want to keep or change in the future to really narrow my sites. I expect to be more comfortable talking in front of people and to understand more about what it takes to be a teacher and all that comes along with it. I’m excited to get into the school and really get to know my mentor and learn a lot from how they teach and to take away ideas from him/her for my own classes and for myself.